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June 2016

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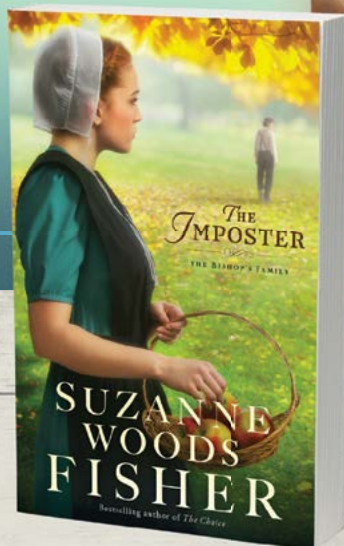
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While driving along Route 30 in Lancaster County, you may see a few unfamiliar, if not unique, sites. You may catch a glimpse of some folks dressed a little unusually. You'll probably see a few horse-drawn carriages instead of cars. And, you'll undoubtedly notice the Dutch Haven windmill. This landmark building has been drawing thousands of visitors each week to Lancaster County for the past 67 years. Opening first as a restaurant in 1946, the Dutch Haven operated with great success with a world famous Shoo Fly pie recipe.

Today, the Dutch Haven staple is still "America's Best Shoo Fly Pie." All you have to do is pass through the door and you will be offered a sample taste of this famous pie—warmed and topped with whipped cream, just like it was always served in the restaurant, years ago.

Some 40,000 pies will be sold at the Dutch Haven this year alone. While most of these shoo fly pies are purchased over the counter, some are shipped UPS. Many pies are sold to

faithful customers who have been buying them from Dutch Haven for over half a century!

As always at Dutch Haven, the famous pie that was featured in Time magazine is just part of the story. The windmill building now houses one of, if not the best, selections of primitive Amish pine furniture in the area. Corner cupboards, pie safes, chests, and shelves are all available. Hundreds of pieces of Amish woodcrafts fill what once were the dining rooms of this wonderful old building. In addition, thousands of other items from pot holders to copper crafts, T-shirts, small wood crafts, a stunning selection of pottery, and much more make Dutch Haven a true shopping experience.

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Special to Amish Country News



Ride Like the Amish Do!

Aaron and Jessica will be happy to take you. Jessica? Well, she's the little girl who started it all. Her dad agreed to let her try her hand at giving buggy rides. She liked driving horses, and thought it would be fun to show the beautiful scenery and Amish farms to visitors. Aaron? You're probably thinking that must be Jessica's father. Nope. You just can't have a buggy ride without a horse. That's right, Aaron was Jessica's horse. And that's how Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides was born.

Ride Through the Covered Bridge

As Jessica always says, "We know you came here more than anything to see and understand how and why we live the way we do. Take a ride with us. Let us tell you all about it, too. After all, we live here."

"You don't pass one piece of ground that isn't farmed with a horse when you take a ride with us!" —Jessica's Dad

The buggy rides depart from the covered bridges of Plain & Fancy Farm. You'll see a little red covered bridge along the side of Route 340, exactly a mile and a half from either Bird-in-Hand or Intercourse. Completely surrounded by Amish farmland,

there are at least seven different routes offered with different sights, stops, lengths, and prices. No reservations are needed. Just pick your ride when you arrive.

Family Tradition That Never Disappoints

Jessica likes to stress the non-commercial nature of the rides. "We can take you between the house and the barn on a real Amish farm, on private roads, with no cars. You see real Amish life. We absolutely offer you more!"



Most of the drivers are our neighbors and are all Amish. Jessica's dad, who has driven thousands of visitors down Amish farm lanes over the last 25 years, was three years old when he had his first recollection of a horse. He guesses he has driven a carriage more than anyone else in Lancaster County, about 10,000 miles a year!

Enjoy the beautiful countryside of Lancaster County with its immaculately kept Amish farms and gardens. Experience for yourself a taste of Amish Country life here.

All the rides are reasonably priced, starting at just \$10.00 for adults and \$6.00 for kids.

The ride is "air-conditioned." You'll be more than comfortable with the open buggy and the breeze. Jessica says, "In the summer, it's a great way to cool off. My dad says it's like sitting in the shade with the fan on... 409 air-conditioning... four wheels turning at nine miles an hour!"



All of the buggy rides pass through a covered bridge. Kids love buggy rides, especially getting to sit up front next to the drivers! As one visitor from Long Island said, "This is our fifth time here this year. We love it here. Since my son woke up this morning Aaron & Jessica's is all I've heard" So, if your kids are driving you buggy, let Aaron & Jessica take over the reins for a while! Look for the little covered bridge along Route 340 at Plain & Fancy Farm, midway between Intercourse and Bird-in-Hand.

WIN A PRIVATE FAMILY RIDE WITH MIRIAM!

Want to know what it's like? scan this QR Code and imagine you are on tour with her!

Contest Rules: Just "Like" us on Facebook in the month of June, and tell us why you would like to ride with Miriam for your family or friends. We will review all entries in a decidedly non-scientific way and choose a winner.

Rules: Ride has no cash value and must be taken or forfeited by December 31, 2016. Ride is not transferrable. Advanced reservation required. Private ride for one hour for up to 4 people; any additional will incur added charges. This does NOT include gratuity for the driver. NOT AVAILABLE ON SUNDAYS. 

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The Mom & Pop Tradition: Family-Owned Businesses

By Brad Igou

Nowadays, there seem to be many definitions of “family.” We throw this word around a lot, including its use for a group of people with a common interest. And, of course there is the “human family,” which includes virtually everyone, living or dead, even though, sadly, we very often don’t get along with one another.

For the purposes of this article, I am using the very traditional idea of family, what was called the “nuclear family” when I was growing up. For younger readers, that does NOT mean a family transformed, for better or worse, as a result of radiation exposure, although Hollywood has certainly given us those.

Our interest in spotlighting family-owned businesses began many years ago, as we recognized that so many of our *Amish Country News* advertisers were businesses owned and run by families, often for generations.

Attractions

There are many local attractions and activities for you to enjoy that are family-owned, both Amish and “English.” Buggy rides certainly



Good ‘N Plenty Restaurant is a family owned business that has welcomed families around their table for over 40 years.

come to mind. Family-owned **Aaron & Jessica’s** actually takes its name from one of the owner’s daughters. You can read more about A&J in our cover story.

A classic example of a family business is the **Choo Choo Barn**. Tom Groff got hooked on model railroading after his father kept expanding the layout in the family home to the point that it required a separate building. Opening in 1961 with just six trains, 55 years

later it is now a local landmark covering over 17,000 square feet with over 20 trains and 150 hand-built animations. With Tom’s daughter (and another generation newly arrived) now part of the team, the family keeps the business successfully chugging along.

Not far away is **Village Greens Miniature Golf**. Father was an engineer, and when informed, he needed to relocate to Washington DC, decided to say “no” to corporate



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America. Mom came up with the miniature golf idea. Although they looked at many other courses to model theirs after, they struggled to capture their unique vision of miniature golf. Dad developed the layout of the 1972 Orange Course, but the "ultimate" was the design and construction of his 1984 Gold Course. Immediate and sometimes extended family have been involved over the years in the ongoing tweaking and maintaining of the two beautiful layouts, which remain as stunning a rendition of the miniature golf course as you'll find anywhere, and a local favorite.

Finally, the dramatic world of family traditions in the theater is alive and well with the Prather family at the **Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre** and the DiSavinos at the **Rainbow's Comedy Playhouse**, who not only work behind the scenes but are often on stage performing!

More Than Quilts

Over the years, as farmland became scarcer and certainly more expensive, many Amish looked for ways to supplement their farm income. The little shops that sprung up on the farmstead grew into important family businesses, with ever larger shops to accommodate the demand for their wares. The reputation for fine furniture, quilts, and crafts grew and, with Amish Country long a major visitor destination, new customers arrived each season. As the cottage industries expanded, some shops became small assembly plants with many men employed, while some craft businesses set aside their retail businesses to become strictly wholesale enterprises.

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Mary Poppins photo courtesy of Derby Dinner Playhouse, Clarksville, IN.

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We Deliver Anywhere!

You commonly see trucks transporting furniture, storage sheds and gazebos far beyond our farmlands. Many Amish travel to markets in Philadelphia and beyond to display and sell their goods. Indeed, the proliferation of these cottage industries has spawned several books on Amish entrepreneurs and the "secrets" behind their success.

There are really so many shops and businesses related to hand-crafted items that it would be difficult to single out even a handful. Throughout our pages, you'll see articles about many of these shops and businesses, selling almost anything, including quilts and knives, candles and hats, gazebos and jelly.

So when you spot Amish boys selling lemonade by the road, you may well be witnessing a budding Amish business – Amos's Sweet Lemonade!

Food & Restaurants

Amish Country is known for our foods and it is not surprising that many restaurants are family-owned. In the late 1950's, the Lapp brothers opened the first, and now iconic, family-style restaurants, **Plain & Fancy Farm** and **Good 'N Plenty**. Nearby, the Smucker brothers at **Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant** now also own several hotels and even gave birth to the wonderful feast of the "Banquet in the Cornfield" on the family farm and live theater productions.

Families producing hand-crafted beer, wines, and cheese are no longer the exception, but now the rule in Lancaster County.

Other food related enterprises range from Amish who sell bread, root beer and whoopie pies along the road to shops offering everything from hand-rolled soft pretzels to homemade ice cream. Just one example is the **Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop** on Gibbons Road, where Butch and Linda Miller are celebrating 44 wonderful years of baking goodies for both locals and visitors.

Family Values

For the Amish, work and family are attached to a culture far from the corporate world, one originally destined to work the soil, with farms passing from generation to generation. More and more today, however, it is the

Continued on Page 10

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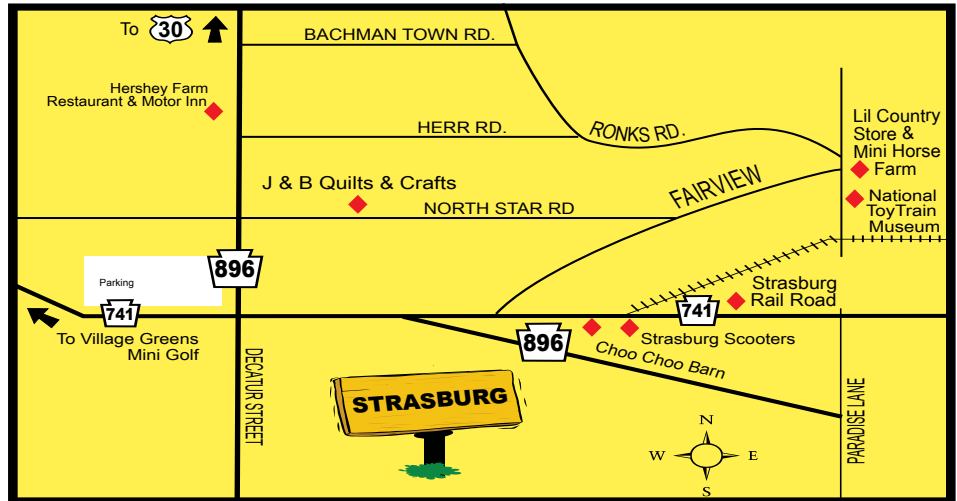
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Strasburg - A Town of Trains & Heritage

All aboard! Strasburg is a destination all its own in Dutch Country, home to many well known attractions. To name just a few --- the Strasburg Rail Road, Ghost Tours of Lancaster, National Toy Train Museum, and the Choo Choo Barn. But you may not know much about the interesting history of "Train Town."

Strasburg, named for the city in France, was actually "founded" by a Frenchman, Pierre Bezaillon, who traded with the Delaware Indians. The story goes he came to the area in 1693, as French fur traders opened up the first path through this area from Philadelphia to the Susquehanna River.

As early as 1716, when the first wagon was used for hauling goods, the path became known as the Conestoga Road, and the wagons that traveled them eventually became known



as Conestoga Wagons. Main Street Strasburg was developed during the next half century as traffic on this road increased considerably and the first log houses appeared in the village about 1733.

Strasburg continued to flourish in the 18th century primarily because of its location along the major wagon routes between Philadelphia, Lancaster, and the Susquehanna River.

As Strasburg flourished, so did its neighbor to the east, Philadelphia. The commercial interests of Philadelphia pressured the State Legislature to improve the transportation network into their city. As a result, a series of canals along with the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Roads were constructed. Strasburg residents became alarmed at the possibility of losing their commercial position and there soon emerged a charter for the Strasburg Rail Road to construct a rail line connecting Strasburg with the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Road main line near Paradise. Finally in the 1850's, trains were hauling freight and passengers.

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About 100 years later, business had dwindled, and a severe storm in 1957 destroyed much of the track. It seemed the SRR had reached the end of the line. To the rescue came a group of local train enthusiasts who began bringing the SRR back to life in a totally new way. They added passenger cars and buildings, and today's Strasburg Rail Road was born, destined to become one of Dutch Country's top attractions.

Appropriately enough, the State decided to build an expanded Rail Road Museum of Pennsylvania across the street, the ideal place to preserve the history of railroading in Pennsylvania. With the other train attractions nearby, it's little wonder that Strasburg has earned the title of Train Town! 

Family Owned Businesses

(Continued from Page 8)

family business that will be passed on to the next generation. Some might say it is a sad statistic, but fewer than half of our Amish now earn their living farming.

In both cases, the Amish family businessman (or woman) is creating something of lasting value, while never breaching the commitment to each other, the community, and the faith. These are values passed down from the Old World to the New, and certainly there is much that many of us can learn from their examples.



The Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop on Gibbons Road is a Family-Owned "no-chain" Bakery, making the best Amish and Mennonite treats.

It's not really surprising that many patronize a business not just for what it has to offer by way of product or price, but for the people and values behind it. We get to know the owners and their children, watching them grow up alongside our own.

As you explore these pages, I hope you take the time to observe and come to better appreciate the many families that own and operate their own businesses in Amish Country. You'll do this, of course, by stopping by the shops and stores you encounter along your travels, where you'll meet and hopefully interact with these folks, face-to-face. 

Book Review: The Amish in Their Own Words

Compiled by Brad Igou

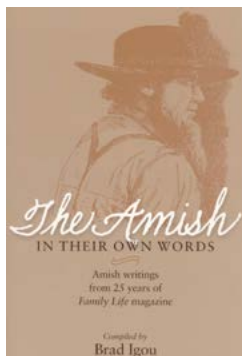
There seems to be no shortage of books about the Amish, but most are written by people who are not Amish. Fictional books “with insights into Amish life” are often brimming with false or misleading information, not to mention films “based on a true story” and “reality TV shows,” now all the rage. It can certainly be difficult for the average reader to separate fact from fiction.

So wouldn't it be interesting to read a book BY the Amish themselves, and get their personal perspective on how they live? Now you can, thanks to this unique book.

The Amish in Their Own Words is a collection of Amish writings covering 25 years (1968-1992). As such, it is the ONLY book to offer such a wide spectrum of writings by contemporary Amish from across the United States and Canada. Here you can read what the Amish say about their religion and way of life, through articles taken from the monthly publication known as *Family Life*, which is produced by the Amish, for the Amish.

Sixteen chapters cover fascinating topics including conflicts with the modern world, clothing, nonresistance, youth activities, old age, controversies, education, work, church, food, humor, parables, and shunning (perhaps the most misunderstood topic of all) from an Amish perspective.

Academic books often analyze and dissect the Amish, but rarely focus on them as people, in a personal way. Here the Amish story is told through diverse individual voices. The Amish tend to write with a simple directness, communicating not only their thoughts, but their inner feelings. If there is such a thing as an “inside look into the world of the Amish,” this is it.



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Continued on Page 16

As Good As It Gets...Solid Hardwood Amish Heirlooms at Gish's Furniture

By Caleb Bressler

The phrase "they just don't make things like they used to" has almost become an adage. Here in Amish Country, Gish's Furniture serves as a shining example that there are still places that sell their wares built to last. This helps explain why the furniture at Gish's is called "Amish Heirlooms," for it is meant to become a part of your family heritage.

And yes, in case you are wondering, the furniture is indeed crafted by members of the Amish and Mennonite community. However, you're not out of luck if your taste isn't for traditional straightforward Amish style furniture. Gish's has a remarkable selection of styles, ranging from modern to rustic. All the furniture is hardwood with a variety of stains which can be custom-picked.

Another thing that sets the furniture apart here is the proprietary Gish varnish that is resistant to water-stains or the occasional spilled drink.

Great, you say! So what are some especially popular Gish lines to get me started? Probably the biggest category is the dining room tables and, at the moment, one of the most popular is the Settler's Trestle Table, a sturdy rustic piece that would fit perfectly into a country farmhouse-style kitchen.

Also attracting attention on the Gish showroom floor is a rustic bedroom suite with furniture tops made of re-purposed barn wood for a casual, country elegance.

I must also mention an extremely clever coffee table which caught my eye. The top of the coffee table lifts up and towards you to make a nice little "tray." Perfect for watching television while having dinner in your living room.

Visiting and can't haul your new furniture home? Not to worry. Gish's in-house delivery service will ship to anywhere in the United States, and you can be assured that everything arrives in tip-top shape.

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So what are you waiting for? Head over to 2191 Lincoln Highway East, or any other of Gish's locations (Camp Hill, PA; Cockeysville, MD; Murfreesboro, TN) to pick out your own heirlooms. The doors open Monday-Saturday at 10AM. Call for more information to 717-392-6080 or visit online at www.gishs.com.



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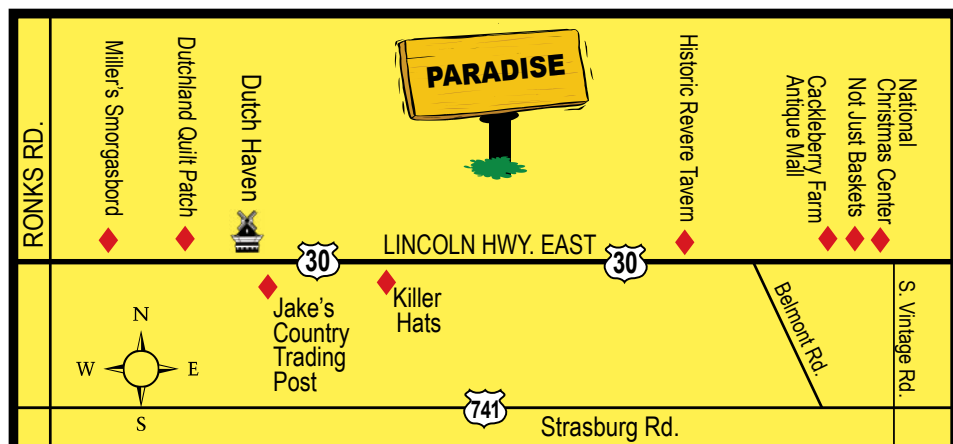
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AMISH CO NEWS

Welcome to Our Paradise



Visitors to Lancaster from the east on RT 30 travel through Paradise. The town's story traces back to Europe over 300 years ago, to the area of the Palatinate in Germany where Protestants had settled following the declaration of King Louis XIV that all Protestants in France would be persecuted. Fearing a French invasion, many accepted the invitation to settle in the New World in William Penn's colony of Penn's Woods. By 1712, they had secured land in Lancaster's Pequea Valley as the area's first white people, living peaceably with local Indians.

The origins of RT 30, also known as "Lincoln Highway," date back to Lancaster's Colonial days when the frontier county needed a highway to connect it with the provincial capital of Philadelphia. The first road that was constructed is now RT 340, still referred to as the "Old Philadelphia Pike." Soon, it was apparent that this road was insufficient to handle the increasing traffic, and in 1790, a commission to survey a new route was created. Since the cost was too much for the state to undertake, the company charged with building it was given the power to demand "reasonable" tolls from users. Investors received dividends earned from tolls collected along the gates of the turnpike. (As the toll was paid, the gate or "pike" was turned, hence the term "turnpike"). The "Lincoln Highway" (RT 30) opened in 1795 as the first long-distance, hard surfaced road in the country. Taverns and stagecoach stops grew up along the turnpike for weary travelers. Of these, the Revere Tavern, dating back to 1740 and originally called the "Sign of the Spread Eagle," still proudly stands today. In 1841, the tavern became the residence of Reverend Edward V. Buchanan and his wife Eliza Foster Buchanan. Eliza was the sister

of Stephen Foster, whose immortal songs will always be a part of Americana. Foster not only penned music at the tavern, but sent many of his manuscripts to Eliza, also a talented musician, for her approval. On the banks of the Pequea Creek, Eliza and Stephen played many of Stephen's 200 songs, including "Way Down Upon the Suwannee River" and "Oh! Susanna." Wherever you happen to call "paradise," we hope that a little bit of our own Paradise won't do you any harm! 

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Who Knew Ice Cream Could Be So Much Fun... The Turkey Hill Experience

By Clinton Martin

So...you might know Turkey Hill for ice cream, or you might know them for iced tea. In truth, Turkey Hill is equally passionate about both. For years, dating back to 1931, the Frey family of Lancaster County has operated Turkey Hill Dairy and it was then that the vision, albeit an evolving one, was formed.

Butter, cream, and dairy treats were in the family-owned business' repertoire from the beginning. Iced tea was a later addition to the story. The best news is that today visitors can taste and see the Turkey Hill story in a truly fun and interactive way.

The Turkey Hill attraction opened five years ago. In fact, if you are lucky enough to be in Amish Country on Sunday June 5th, be sure to stop by for the Five Year Anniversary Celebration. It's not hard to imagine an ice cream dairy attraction throwing one awesome birthday party!

The Turkey Hill Experience combines an educational visitor center with a hands-on factory tour. And yes, you do get to sample ice cream and iced tea as part of each tour!



The first impression visitors have of the attraction is likely the grand water-tower beside the building, easily seen from the Route 30 highway. It is an easy marker for the proper exit to ice cream Nirvana.

The second impression is probably the strikingly historical façade of the building, an imposing industrial red-brick former silk mill. And then there's the permanent oversized cow mascot normally standing outside the main entrance!

From there, you step inside to be greeted at the high-energy welcome center. You'll be faced with a choice, whether to spend some time enjoying the on-site café, gift shop, and free educational displays, or to add the interactive exhibits for which a nominal admission is charged. While the educational displays are very interesting, the paid portion of the attraction is simply a must-do.

It all starts with a video about the making of ice cream, presented inside a giant ice cream box, of course. The interactive fun goes on to include games like mixing and matching flavorful smells, creating your own virtual ice cream flavor, and a ball pit and slide designed to help explain homogenization and pasteurization.

You can even star in your own Turkey Hill commercial, which you can instantly share through social media! Then mooove (sorry for that) on to additional activities, including milking a mechanical cow!

The Turkey Hill Experience is open seven days a week, with hours varying by day. Call 1-888-986-8784 for current hours. Getting there is easy. Take the Route 441 (Columbia) exit off of Route 30, west of Lancaster, heading south on Route 441 for only a tenth of a mile. Turn left at the first traffic light to enter the parking lot. GPS destination is 301 Linden Street, Columbia PA. 🐄

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Book Review

(Continued from Page 11)

Enhancing the book's appeal, and out of respect for the Amish people's reluctance to be photographed, the book contains original pen and ink illustrations by the talented Edwin Wallace. The illustrations take us further into

the unfamiliar world of the Amish in a way glossy photos rarely can.

Since the book is comprised of excerpts, it is possible to open it almost anywhere and find intriguing reading about Amish history, their church community, their challenges, joys, and sorrows, as can only be revealed in their own words.

The following comments by John D. Roth, Director of the Mennonite Historical Library, sum up Igou's book and its contents quite well ...

"Much popular literature on the Amish taps into sentiments of nostalgia or sensationalism, revealing more about the author and the audience than about the Amish themselves. This book lets the Amish speak in their own words."

Anyone who reads these forthright, plain-spoken, and honest reflections will need to give up the notion that the Amish are a people frozen in time or trapped by a hidebound, legalistic conformity to the past. The essays challenge discerning readers to reflect more critically on the modern cult of progress and our idolatry of the individual."

The book is available locally at the Amish Experience, Plain & Fancy Farm, Gordonville Book Store, and Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop. It may also be obtained through online booksellers, including the Kindle edition at www.amazon.com.

In addition to penning this important work on Amish life, Igou has served as Publisher of Amish Country News for the past 24 years writing a column in each issue providing insights into Amish life, from its beginnings over 400 years ago to the challenges facing the Amish in today's digital world. He is also one of the founders of the Amish Experience at Plain and Fancy Farm, co-producing the critically acclaimed special effects production of "Jacob's Choice." He has created many interactive tours of the Amish countryside including the Amish Experience Visit-in-Person Tour, the only tour officially designated as a Heritage Tour by the County of Lancaster.

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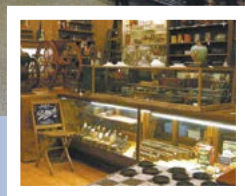
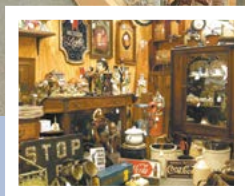
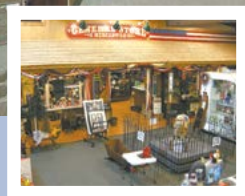


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In Beautiful Paradise Lancaster County Pennsylvania

Shopping at Aimee & Daria's Doll Outlet a Real Attraction

By Clinton Martin

I may not own many dolls (I suppose my daughter owns the ones "I" have anyway!), but I do know that when shopping for dolls, there are choices to be made. You can push a cart down the toy aisle of any big-box retailer, find dolls, and perhaps if you look hard enough you'll find a doll you might like, but really don't love. Or, you can try visiting Aimee & Daria's Doll Outlet. At Aimee & Daria's you'll find, literally, an endless display of durable, delightful dolls to choose from. Imagine the selection (5,000 dolls ranging in price from \$2.50 to \$2,500) and you can begin to imagine the impressive experience of perusing the largest doll store within 1,000 miles of Lancaster County.

Beyond simply the purchase, Aimee & Daria's offers so much more than a bag for your doll, a copy of the receipt and a friendly farewell. You wouldn't expect, but you will find, a full-blown Baby Doll Adoption Center.



Bring your camera for the picture you'll take with the little bundle of joy, as the dolly nurse on duty gives your baby doll a checkup with her stethoscope. You walk away with your doll, an adoption certificate, and a few precious photos of the ceremony!

For those who would rather enjoy the adoption ceremony with a toy pet instead of a doll, Aimee & Daria's delivers. They have a variety of cute plush animals that visitors can purchase, and the adoption ceremony is just as sweet.

One of the most popular toy animals to take home is none other than "Grumpy Cat," the plush version of the real-live cat internet and

television sensation that makes everyone smile with its trademark frown.

Aimee & Daria's is the only store in the area to receive the official blessing of Grumpy Cat to house his likeness and "adopt" him out. I'm guessing his quip would be, "I was adopted at Aimee & Daria's once. It was awful! The kids just wouldn't stop kissing me and saying I was cute."

Luckily, Aimee & Daria are not grumpy and will give you a very warm welcome to their store, located at 2682 Lincoln Highway East, Ronks. Call 717.687.8118 or visit www.dolloutlet.com. You will have a good time here! 

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Music, Dance, Culture, Highland Games: The Celtic Fling

Special to Amish Country News

Dance, music, food, games, and crafts come alive at the Celtic Fling, a music festival, a dance competition, a sporting event, a cultural celebration, a food fest, and a craft show. The merriment starts at 11:00 AM and concludes at 10:00 PM both Saturday and Sunday, June 25th and 26th.

Music for the Heart and Soul. The music begins on Friday June 24th with a four-band kick-off event at 4:00 PM. The concerts will take place on the Globe Stage, with food, beer and wine available. Saturday and Sunday, the beat of numerous bands will resonate across the festival site.

The Feis – Irish Dance Competition. Saturday, June 25th, thousands of dancers and their families will descend upon the Fling to compete in a Feis. A Feis Competition showcases the traditional Irish dance style.

Athletics Scottish Style. Also on Saturday, June 25th, men and women will compete in sanctioned Highland Games including the Scottish Hammer, the Caber Toss, The Sheaf Toss and Stone Weight Throw.

The Grace of Tradition. The Fling showcases an array of Celtic history, culture and tradition. Historians, storytellers, reenactors and Celtic musicians fill both days.

Continued on Page 21

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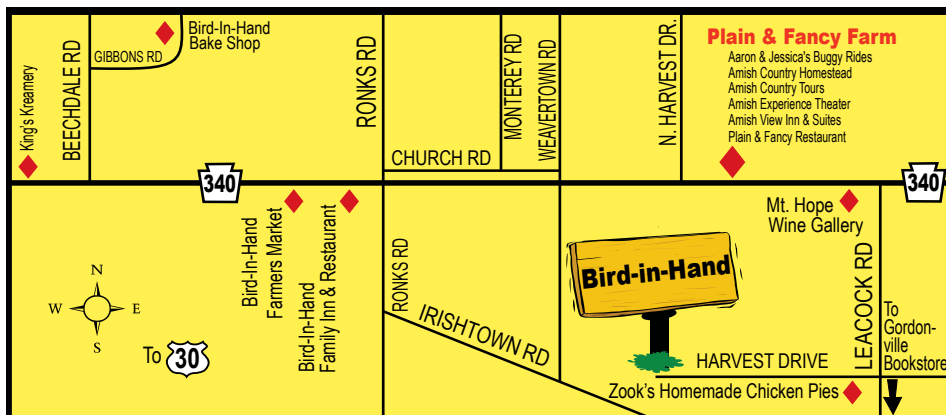
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Welcome to the Village of Bird-in-Hand

Of the many unique village names that dot the Amish Country map, one of the more interesting is Bird-in-Hand. William Penn, an English Quaker, had founded the colony of Penn's Woods, and settlers began arriving from Europe in the early 1700's, moving westward from Philadelphia. The trip by stagecoach, or Conestoga wagon with freight and merchandise, lasted several days. Inns were built every few miles, identified with signs held by an iron pole or attached to the side of the building. The reason for the signs was so that they could be understood by all nationalities. Further, since many teamsters or wagoners were poorly educated they could not read. Given orders to stop at a certain inn, they were able to do so by recognizing the artwork on the signboard.

The legend of the naming of Bird-in-Hand dates to the time when the Old Philadelphia Pike was being laid out. By 1734, surveyors at McNabb's Hotel were discussing whether they should stay at their present location or return to Lancaster to spend the night. One of them said, "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." The sign in front of the inn, which



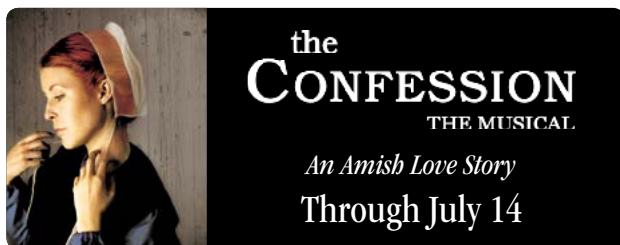
became known as the Bird-in-Hand Inn, is known to have once "portrayed a man with a bird in his hand and a bush nearby, in which two birds were perched."

Variations of this sign appear throughout the town today. McNabb's Hotel was destroyed by fire in 1851. By the following year, a three-story hotel was built to replace it. More recently, it was Bitzer's Hotel before becoming the present Village Inn of Bird-in-Hand, a beautiful bed and breakfast property. The Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster

County states that the existing brick building "may be one of the few 19th century inns in the context of a small town in Lancaster County, which survives with a high degree of architectural integrity." It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. When referring to their bird in hand symbol, some residents say that the bird nestled in the human hand indicates friendship, comfort, and hospitality, all of which you'll discover in this perfectly delightful little village of shops, farmers markets and eateries. 

Uplifting, Amish Country Entertainment

The Bird-in-Hand Stage delights audiences with Broadway-style musicals from Amish Country and has become one of Lancaster County's must-see stops for live performances. Tickets are now on sale for the following shows.



For tickets, call (800) 790-4069 or visit Bird-in-Hand.com.



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AFTER 5 ACTIVITIES

If you're looking for something to do during the evening hours there are always movies, shopping malls, outlets, comedy clubs, and lounges at the larger hotels. But here is a list of interesting ideas for the entire family. **NOTE:** See respective ads for details. More activities in our Events section. 717 area code unless noted otherwise. An * denotes coupon.

*Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides

768-8828 (till dusk)

*Amish VIP (Visit-in-Person) Tour

768-8400 (5:00pm-8:00pm)

Bird-in-Hand Stage

768-1508 (call for show times)

Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre

898-1900 (call for show times)

Dutch Haven

687-0111 (till 9:00pm)

Hershey's Chocolate World

534-4900 (till at least 8:00pm. Call for schedule)

*Mount Hope Estate

665-7021 (daily wine tasting plus periodic events)

National Christmas Center

442-7950 (till 6 PM)

*Rainbow's Comedy Playhouse

687-4300 (call for show times)

Strasburg Rail Road

687-7522 (call for schedule)

*Strasburg Scooters

344-2488 (6:00pm tours on select days)

Village Greens Mini Golf

687-6933 (till at least 9:30pm. Call for schedule)

Celtic Fling (Continued from Page 19)

A gathering of the Clans offers the chance to explore their histories.

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Tradition: In Style Again at Lapp's Toys

By Caleb Bressler



Visitors to Amish Country have long come looking for our renowned hand-crafted quilts and other artisan

wares. Admittedly, it can be hard to know where to go for that something special on your list. While you might make an unexpected discovery as you explore the countryside, finding handmade, old-fashioned Amish-made toys can be akin to looking for a needle in a haystack.

Look no further. I can happily share with you that Lapp's Toys is the place where you'll find an expansive selection of really wonderful Amish-crafted wooden toys that you simply can't find anywhere else. This unusual toy

shop has been satisfying shoppers lucky enough to discover it since the late 1970s.

In the store, you'll find everything from puzzle boards to toy trains to children's furniture. And all of the toys are handmade on-site in a workshop (without electricity), as they have been for two generations of the Lapp family.

Owner John Lapp told me that he is seeing more and more young parents purchasing these low-tech toys for their children with the belief that their value as traditional toys is important in a child's development. As one example he pointed out the simple building blocks we knew in our childhood, which remain valuable in developing motor skills, perhaps more so in today's digital age.

Of course, all paint and stains on the toys are compliant with toy industry standards. But Lapp's is planning on coloring more of the toys rather than relying exclusively on the traditional wood stain. Bright greens, reds, and oranges are some of the colors that have the bonus of adding splashes of color to whatever room they might occupy in your house.

Some of the most popular toys at Lapp's are trucks, trains and marble rollers which, in the hands of a child, allow imaginations to soar. Miniature children's kitchen sets, with wooden refrigerators, ranges, and ovens are favorites of Amish and "English" alike.

Finally, Lapp's offers a number of fascinating marble rollers, unique to Amish Country, from the straight-forward and simple to the complex and enormous. There are elaborate racing marble rollers where two marbles race side by side on two tracks occupying the attention of one or two players time and again.

The amazing "Marble Pyramid" is a spectacular roller that includes elements such as steps, a bell that rings, and a spiral through which the marbles navigate.

Lapp's Toys is located at 2220 Horseshoe Rd. Lancaster, 17601 and is open Monday-Friday from 7AM-5PM and Saturdays from 8AM-4PM. For information call 717-945-5366 or visit www.lappstoysandfurniture.com. If you can't make it the showroom, there are a limited number of retail stores offering Lapp's Toys branded under the name "Clip Clop."

Don't pass up a chance to visit Lapp's Toys. At a minimum, you'll leave with a smile on your face. At best, you'll be taking home a treasure that will be enjoyed by a loved one, maybe even yourself, for years to come.

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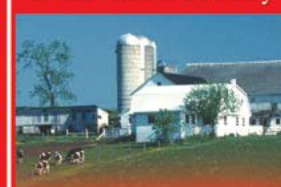


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Zook's Chicken Pies... You Won't Find the Area's Best Chicken Pies on Any Menu

By Clinton Martin

You may be aware that most chicken pot pie in Amish Country is more like a hearty stew laced with strips of soft pasta pieces instead of a crust. However, one Amish family has rewritten the Book of Chicken Pot Pie, creating what many locals, including this writer, consider the best Chicken Pot Pies (in a crust) in existence.

Look up Zook's Homemade Chicken Pies on Yelp or TripAdvisor for yourself to witness the ecstatic reviews the pies garner. There's definitely nothing humble about devouring these delicacies.

Zook's Homemade Chicken Pies is not a restaurant. It is a family-owned bakery nestled among Amish farms where chicken (in addition to sausage and beef) pies are made and sold, either frozen or fresh, for baking at home, hotel, or camp site.

Besides the pies, you'll be pleasantly surprised to see on Zook's shelves, beef and chicken stock, Welsh Mountain canned goods, Little Barn Noodles, Mrs. Miller's Pasta Sauce, Beans BBQ Sauce, homemade sour cream and onion pretzels, and other local specialty items, including Zook's new and delicious apple dumplings. Zook's Homemade Chicken Pies is located in the very heart of Amish Country at 3194 Harvest Drive, Ronks PA. Call 717.768.0239. 



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Myths About the Amish

by Brad Igou

In this series, we will deal with several of the more understandable misconceptions about the Amish, many of which may have some truth to them, and try to present a more balanced explanation. The reader should keep in mind that Amish customs vary a great deal across the USA, and much of what follows is focused on the Lancaster Amish settlement, the oldest in the Nation.

Over the years, and even more so today with the proliferation of "reality TV shows," there have been many misconceptions created about the Amish. These often go beyond stereotypes, to outright lies, with one of the most egregious examples being the outrageous (but sadly popular) "Amish Mafia" series. Admittedly, some viewers watch such shows for a perceived entertainment value, but others actually believe much of what they see. Bottom line --- such shows make it difficult to separate fact from fiction.

Part 2: "The Amish Don't Have Phones"

In our previous issue, we examined the use of the "land line" phone by the Amish, the arrival of the cell phone, and the introduction of the "smartphone." There is general agreement among scholars and the Amish themselves that the smartphone may be the single biggest threat to the Amish way of life in decades. With it you can now take and send photos, watch movies, surf the internet, listen to music, etc. Like the cell phone, it can be taken with you anywhere, including into the house. Its ultimate impact remains to be seen. But Amish clearly understand the threat when you have "the world in your pocket."

The extent of the change the phone and internet usage have brought to Amish communities, particularly young people, was highlighted by a presentation on "The Use of Social Media by Amish Youth" given by Charles Jantzi and Richard Stevick at a conference in 2013 at nearby Elizabethtown College. Clearly, what happens in Rumspringa (the "running around" time for young Amish adults before they decide to become baptized and join the Church) no longer stays in Rumspringa.

It was estimated that 900-1,000 youth were on the internet/Facebook in the three largest Amish communities, out of approximately 12,000 total youth. That would be about 8% of the youth. However, in the Lancaster settlement, it was estimated that 40-60% of youth had cellphones, of which 60-70% were Smartphones, and most said that they text. The researchers noted it is difficult to get exact figures, since numbers can only be based on "Amish names" and informants.

In this study, they identified 360 Amish Facebook members (68 of which were even church members). The Amish tend not to have private settings for pictures on their Facebook page (perhaps because of the lack of parental supervision). Many even had both an Amish

and "English" profile and cover picture, with comments and photos often reflecting the straddling of two very different worlds.

Some posts highlighted were the announcement of youth gatherings, road trips between Amish communities in different States, a photo watching a movie on a laptop in a buggy on the way to a "hop," and an admonition that "the Bible is meant to be bread for daily use, not cake for special occasions."

On Facebook, Amish posted top "likes" of TV shows, which included "Family Guy," and the top two movies for them then were "Fast & Furious" and "Step Up." In Lancaster, the "likes" were sports, the beach, and Noyz Boys, a popular Amish cover band. Other music "likes" were similar to those of non-Amish evangelical youth. Northern Indiana users seemed to be into "limo parties."

It appears more Amish are coming online all the time with the number of Facebook friends increasing, including some non-Amish friends. These youth have more discretionary income, with trips to Ocean City, Florida beaches, and hunting being popular. Some youth have even gone to professional photography studios for group photos with friends to post online. But the presenters were quick to say that this is still NOT the majority of young Amish.

Noted was the concern, perhaps now better recognized, of the lack of sophistication in the blocking of personal information on Facebook, unlike in the "English" world where parents or adults may be offering advice or monitoring. There is vulnerability in that images (such as girls in bikinis) can be downloaded and used in many ways by anyone. Even though Facebook accounts can be deleted, the photos and information are still out there. This is a lesson that many non-Amish have learned the hard way.

So, is the growing internet use by Amish youth just a phase or a fatal blow? Most Amish parents say the internet's seductive and addictive nature is their #1 concern, as it provides access to pornography, online gambling, easy access to the modern world, and contact with worldly people. Here Amish values clash with mainstream American values.

There are posts and talk of the "Amish me" and the "worldly me." Will these young people eventually become drawn to a world apart from that which surrounds them, or can they retain and hold on to their identity better than we think? Is this a mere dalliance or is it ultimately corrupting church values?

Most Amish adults admit their knowledge of the internet is minimal, but they are now making efforts in this regard, asking some outside organizations to go before youth groups to give advice and warn about the dangers of the internet. The question is whether or not the use of smartphones and the internet (including by adults) is already a "game-changer."

As is typical of the Amish, whenever a new technology comes along, they examine its effect on the church and community. The technology might be banned, but is more often adapted or limited, if not embraced, as long as it does not become an unwanted intrusion into the home and culture, but rather serves the group's social purposes, religious values and goals.

The smartphone is obviously of great concern to the community and represents perhaps the single greatest challenge yet to a lifestyle that has adapted, survived, and grown for the past 300 years. 

Next Issue:
Graven Images, Photos, and Dolls

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A Lancaster Original. Amos, Ben, Manny and Elmer are some of the Amish farmers who supply the restaurant with the farm-fresh produce it serves on a daily basis. Depending on the season, sweet corn, tomatoes, watermelon, cabbage, broccoli, squash, peppers and onions are all sourced from farms within a horse-and-buggy's drive. These neighbors, and the neighbors before them, have helped Plain & Fancy go "from farm to table" for over 50 years. The restaurant is AAA recommended, a PA Preferred and ServSafe award winner, and the Pennsylvania recipient of USA Today's Great Plate Award.

The Amish Farm Feast. Plain & Fancy Farm Restaurant is best known as Lancaster County's original family-style restaurant. The all-you-can-eat Amish Farm Feast includes your entrees, side dishes, starters, desserts and beverages. Enjoy fried chicken, roast beef, chicken pot pie, baked sausage, real mashed potatoes, buttered noodles, green and yellow string beans, sweet shoe peg corn, chow chow, cole slaw, raisin bread, rolls and apple butter, lemonade, iced tea, hot tea, coffee, sour cream apple crumb pie, shoofly pie and vanilla ice cream. It was this very meal that drew Man Vs. Food's Adam Richman to Amish Country, where he went behind the scenes in the Plain & Fancy kitchen for one of his popular show's episodes.

The New "a la carte" Menu.

The restaurant also offers a new a la carte menu featuring mouth-watering appetizers, signature soups and salads, charbroiled burgers and sandwiches, and made-from scratch entrees and platters, including several PA Dutch specialties. Guests can "build a platter" with items from the family-style menu or choose one of the daily specials starting at \$10 or less. You can do it all at Plain & Fancy, so why not come and "spend the day!" 



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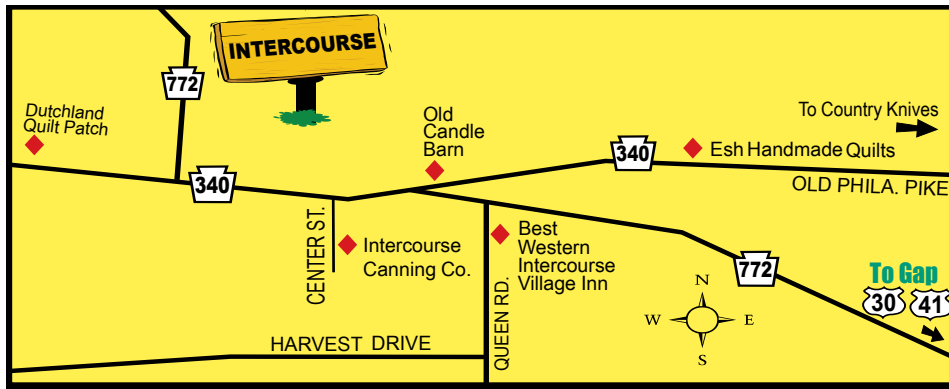
Ala Carte Menu

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Not valid on alcohol or with any other offer. Expires 12/31/16 • Code: C'mon back

Welcome to Intercourse PA



Perhaps no other town in the entire country can claim its fame on just one simple thing --- its name. Harrison Ford drove a buggy past the road sign on a memorable visit in the Hollywood blockbuster hit of the movie "Witness." For years people have postmarked "Intercourse" on envelopes, and the jokes from visitors who travel through Bird-in-Hand to Intercourse are endless. There are several theories for the name, but that which we find most plausible follows.

Around 1730, the Old Provincial Highway (now Route 340) was laid out to connect Philadelphia with Lancaster. Conestoga wagons hauled freight back and forth between the two cities. Providing rest for travelers and horses, taverns sprouted along the way,

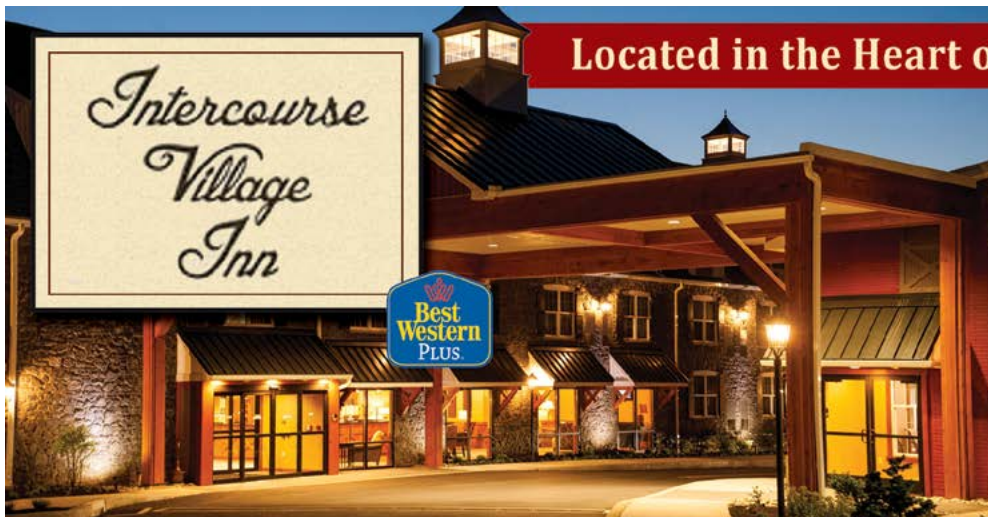
becoming centers for news, gossip, and commerce. The construction of a log tavern in 1754 at the intersection of Newport Road and the Highway took "Cross Keys" as its name.

It remained such until 1814, when the name was changed to Intercourse as part of a failed real estate scheme of a Mr. George Brungard, who had acquired 48 acres of nearby land and attempted to lay out a town site and divide it into sections for sale by a lottery, advertising "151 handsome building lots of \$250 each to be drawn for by number." Renaming the town made sense, as intercourse had a common usage referring to the pleasant mutual fellowship and frequent intermingling which were so common in the informal atmosphere of the quiet country village. Over

time, Brungard's scheme begat others. As recently as 1971, an enterprising soul tried to take advantage of the town's name by selling deeds for one-inch square plots of Intercourse to visitors. Creative, but nonetheless a failure. By 1880, Intercourse had a population of 280 with a post office that actually moved among stores or restaurants as owners hoped visits by residents would increase their business.

The local stagecoach service started around 1898 as "a single horse conveyance similar to a market wagon, with a roll-up curtain and double set of seats." When the stagecoach driver knew of passengers beforehand, their comfort on cold days was added to with the placement of hot bricks heated in the oven, and wrapped in newspaper to preserve their warmth.

As the days of the dirt road drew to a close, so too did the stagecoach era. In 1923 a transit company was organized and bus service initiated to and from Lancaster. While "many of the Amish residents of the area were eager to see the line started, they did not want to invest in stock of the Company. Instead they bought books of tickets which were really prepaid bus fares." Enough money was raised to buy a Mack Auto Bus for \$6,800. It held 25 passengers and even had solid rubber tires! Today Intercourse has been recognized as a "foodie" town by the Discover Lancaster Visitors Bureau. You'll soon discover why walking the streets of this tiny hamlet is an absolute must-visit for everyone. 🐾



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Stone House Restaurant— Glorious Dining Three Ways!

By Clinton Martin

Not many restaurants are 224 years old, but the building that houses the Stone House Family Restaurant & Sports Bar is just that. Owners, names, menus, and even Prohibition, have come and gone, but the best time to visit this venerable dining establishment is undeniably now.

The Stone House encompasses three dining options. There's the stylish, welcoming, and warm full-service family dining room; or the fun, fresh, hip, and cool cellar pub; and then there's the gorgeous, sunny outdoor patio. Diners need only choose their fancy. Any choice allows you to look forward to the creative bartenders working their magic behind the bar, and the genius chef cooking up menu poetry at the heart of it all.

Although this is the first time I'm actually bringing notoriety to the Stone House in *Amish Country News*, I've been a regular there for years. Simply put, bartender and manager Theresa Hardy never ceases to amaze with handcrafted cocktails, including the six Ole Smoky moonshine cocktails exclusively developed for the restaurant. The fact that the liquor bottles are stored in a massive fireplace almost serves to portray the mixology as sorcery.

In the kitchen, my experience has been that anything on a Stone House plate is mouth

watering and delicious... a memorable dish to delight the taste buds. Chef Abramo D'Isidoro is truly a master in marrying together flavors, textures, and temperatures. Stone House owners Toni and Trudi have been working with D'Isidoro for over 20 years.

No matter what I have in mind to spend, I find a perfect fit on the menu. The personal pizzas, burgers, wings, and a cold beer are awesome and satisfying. Yet, here is a place that you can enjoy a special night out, ordering a fine steak cooked to your liking, with a loaded

baked potato, a bold red wine, and a fluffy dessert.

Stone House is prepared to accommodate all, from small children to senior groups traveling together. Dining three ways at the Stone House is a culinary secret that, without reservation, I now share with you.

Pick up knife and fork and plan your own delicious journey to the Stone House, 5267 Lincoln Highway, Gap, PA. www.stonehousegap.com or 717-442-7995 for hours and directions. 

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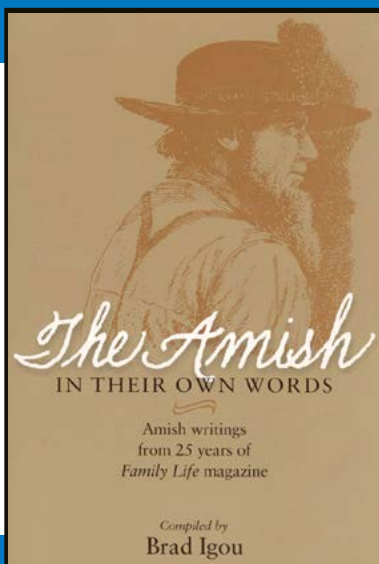
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--Jack Brubaker, *The Scribbler*, Lancaster New Era

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--John D. Ruth, Director, Mennonite Historical Library

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June Events Listings

Opening June 4—*Perfect Wedding: A Really Funny Play* Rainbow's Comedy Playhouse

June 5—5th Anniversary Birthday Bash
Turkey Hill Experience

June 11—23rd Annual Crafts-in-the-Park
Lititz Springs Park

June 4 and 11—Wine & Cheese Train

June 18-26—Day Out With Thomas
Strasburg Rail Road

June 17—Bridges and Beer Tour
Strasburg Scooters

June 17-19—Intercourse Village Heritage Days
Intercourse Community Park

Now through June 19 *Million Dollar Quartet*

Opening June 24—*Mary Poppins*
Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre

June 24-26—Celtic Fling & Highland Games
Mount Hope Estate

Opening June 23—Annual Tent Sales
Keystone Fireworks



Shupp's Grove Antique Market features
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New Redesigned Hershey's Chocolate Tour Now Open

Special to Amish Country News

The ride/tour at Hershey's Chocolate World has undergone the first major renovation of the popular attraction in 10 years. The world's most visited factory tour now features the latest in digital technology and new installations that create a fully immersive and interactive experience for all ages.

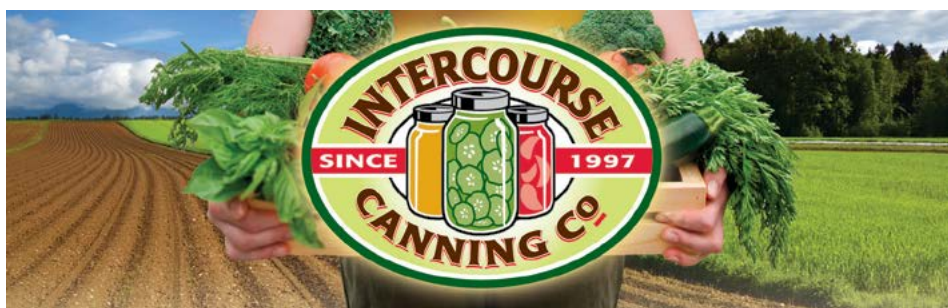
"The Hershey's Chocolate Tour is a fun and educational experience that has delighted families since 1973. With the latest modernization, visitors will get a look into the magical, modern world of chocolate making like never before and learn how simple ingredients like milk, cocoa and sugar come together to create our delicious *Hershey's* chocolate," explains Suzanne Jones, Vice President of The Hershey Experience.

A New Tour for a New Generation. Riders will have a chance to meet seven new cows in the fan-favorite barnyard scene, which transports visitors to the farms of Pennsylvania where Hershey sources the milk for its chocolate. Over 10,000 fans helped name Mocha, Caramel, Strawbella, Blossom and Cocoa by voting online for their favorites, inspired by the delicious flavors found in chocolate. One more cow, Derry, was named by employees of The Hershey Company. In addition to the cows, visitors will find new updates throughout Hershey's Chocolate Tour, including:

- New graphics in the queue area highlighting The Hershey Company's commitment to responsible sourcing and the simple ingredients like milk, cocoa and sugar
- Photo features that make it easy for families to capture and share the magical memories from their visit
- Enhanced sets featuring the latest in projection mapping and holographic imaging effects
- 13 state-of-the-art animated figures
- A brand new narration and theme song
- Power-saving LED lighting
- A high-resolution interactive finale scene that integrates photos submitted by *Hershey's Chocolate World* attraction fans on social media

Since opening in 1973, Hershey's Chocolate Tour has hosted more than 75 million visitors in its 42-year history making *Hershey's Chocolate World* Attraction, with nearly four million visitors annually, the nation's most popular corporate visitor center. The attraction is open daily, year-round, except Christmas Day, and as always, Hershey's Chocolate Tour is free of charge. Visitors to *Hershey's Chocolate World* Attraction can also enjoy other activities including Create Your Own Candy Bar, Chocolate Tasting Experience, 4D Chocolate Mystery and the World's Largest Hershey's Candy Store.

For more information about *Hershey's Chocolate World* activities and events, visit www.hersheyschocolateworld.com or call 717-534-4900. 



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Duration: 1 1/2 hours
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Sun. 10am, 12pm & 2pm

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Duration: 3 hours
April 4 - June 30
Departs 5pm
July 1 - Sept. 4
Departs 10:30am, 2:30pm, 5pm
Sept. 6 - Oct. 31
Departs 5pm
Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26
Departs 5pm

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Theater: Shows on the hour.

House & School: Tours at quarter TO the hour

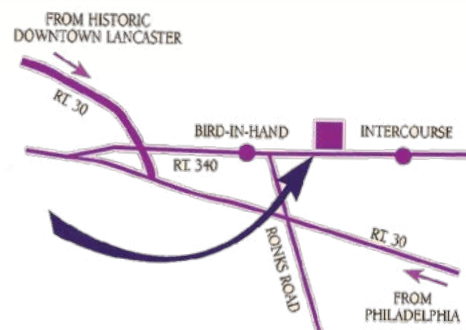
Farmland Tours: Tours at 10am, 12pm, 2pm and 4pm.

Visit-in-Person Tours:
 Mon. - Sat.

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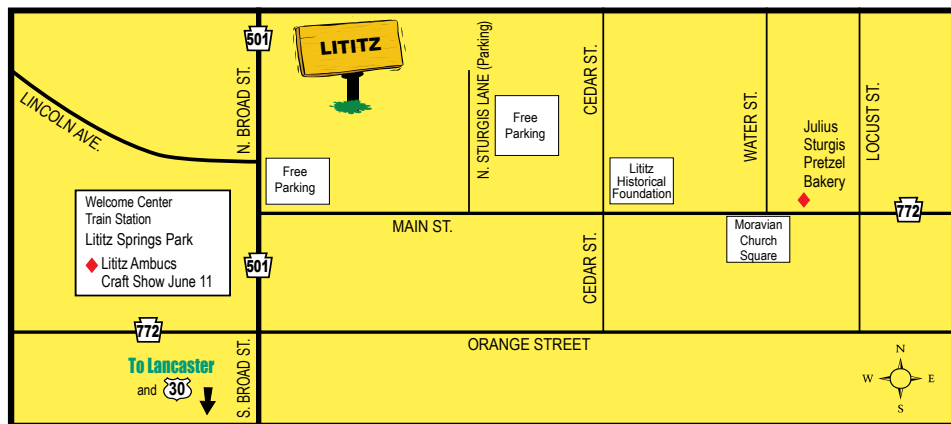
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Historic Lititz • A Hometown Treasure



There really is no place quite like Lititz, and visitors should plan time there while in Amish Country. The Lititz story is tied to that of the Moravian faith in Bohemia. As was the case with other persecuted religious groups in Europe, many Moravians sought freedom in the New World, arriving in the early 1700's, with settlements in Pennsylvania and North Carolina. In 1755 the town actually took the name Lititz, the German spelling for Lidice, where European reformers had taken refuge in the 15th century.

Music and education were important to the Moravians. In fact, the Lititz schoolhouse erected in 1746 marked the beginnings of what was to be Linden Hall, the oldest continuously operating residence school for girls in the United States.

For one hundred years, Moravian church members were the only people permitted to live in the town. It was not until 1855 that non-Moravians were allowed to own their own homes. The complex of buildings comprising the Moravian congregation is well worth seeing, particularly the church built in 1787.

One name is linked forever with the history of Lititz -- Julius Sturgis. It was Julius Sturgis who opened the first commercial pretzel bakery in the New World in Lititz. The year

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was 1861, and the site at 219 East Main Street is on the National Register of Historic Places. A tour of the bakery, still in operation, is unlike any other and well worth your time.

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

For Plain People, Sunday is a day of rest, but there are many things to do in Amish Country on Sundays. Plan ahead and save some of these for your Sunday sight-seeing.

NOTE: See respective ads for details.
 717 area code unless noted otherwise. An * denotes coupon.

***Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides**
 768-8828 (10:00am-4:30pm)

***Amish Experience**
 768-8400 (9:30am-5:00pm)

Choo Choo Barn
 687-7911 (10:00am-5:00pm)

Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre
 898-1900 (call for show times)

Dutch Haven
 687-0111 (9:00am - 9:00pm)

Hershey's Chocolate World
 534-4900 (Open Every Sunday Year Round except 12/25)

***Mount Hope Estate**
 665-7021 (Daily Wine Tasting Year Round. Call for Special Events.)

National Christmas Center
 442-7950 (10:00am – 6:00pm)

***Rainbow's Comedy Playhouse**
 800-292-4301

Renninger's Antique Market
 336-2177 (Open Every Sunday 7:30am-4:00pm)

Shupp's Grove Antique Market
 484-4115 (7:00am – 4:00pm)

***Strasburg Scooters**
 344-2488 (Schedule varies. Call for info.)

Strasburg Rail Road
 866-725-9666 (June schedule varies. Call for info.)

Turkey Hill Experience
 844-847-4884 (9:30am-5:00pm)

Village Greens Mini Golf
 687-6933 (12:00pm-9:30pm)



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Must be 18 or older and show valid ID. Local showroom purchasing restrictions apply. Expires Midnight June 30, 2016.
NO COUPON NECESSARY.

BUY ONE GET ONE FOR 99¢

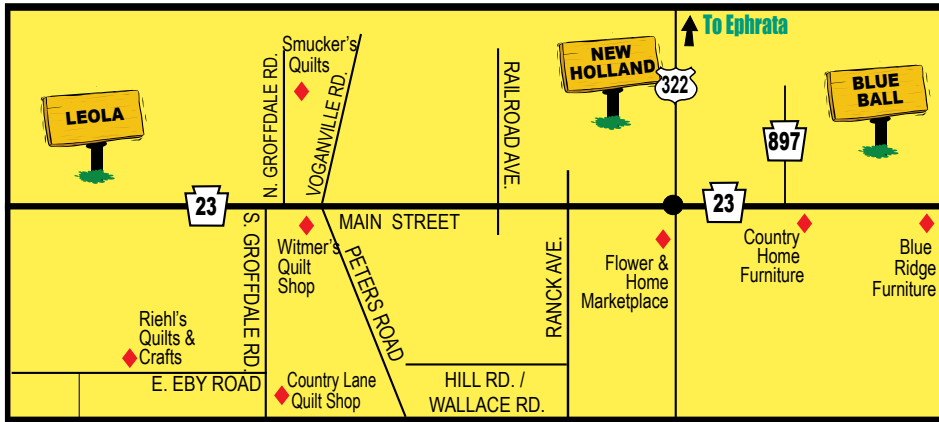
Buy as many items as you want and get identical items for just 99 cents! Mix and match your 500 gram cakes! Mix and match your assortments!



Must be 18 or older and show valid ID. Local showroom purchasing restrictions apply. Expires Midnight June 30, 2016.
NO COUPON NECESSARY.

Must be 18 years old to purchase fireworks. Valid ID required. Subject to local purchasing restrictions. Failure to transport, sell or use fireworks in accordance with your local laws could lead to prosecution.

Welcome to New Holland • Blue Ball



The instability in Europe in the late 1600's spawned and nurtured the pioneer interest in the deep forest lands of Pennsylvania. In 1681 William Penn received his 40,000 square-mile land grant to settle King Charles' debt to his father. Himself a Quaker, Penn had experienced religious persecution firsthand, and decided to establish his American colony based on complete religious freedom.

This entire century had been one of continued misery for the peasants of the Palatinate

(western Germany). The Thirty Years War had raged across the area with barbaric ruthlessness. The peasant inhabitants fled to nearby Holland for refuge. And within a decade of the end of that conflict, King Louis XIV of France started a new religious war in the same general area. These Palatinate peasants were exhausted by war's desolation, and were ripe for a new start. Traveling land agents for William Penn's new colony found listening ears. In addition to religious freedom and a peaceful existence, Penn

offered cheap land. The stated price was 100 English pounds for 5,000 acres.

By 1728, William Penn had been dead for 10 years and his American colony, called Pennsylvania, was being administered by a proprietary governor while the sale of land was formalized by patent deeds.

In 1802, when a post office was established and an official name was necessary, there was no objection to naming the town New Holland. These grateful people remembered how extremely kind the inhabitants of Holland were to them, and the assistance that included funds to cover the cost of the refugee German immigrants' ocean voyage.

This was no small matter when the alternative was indentured service for a period of years. For adults, indenture frequently meant four to seven years of labor without pay. Minors served until their 21st birthday. But still, William Penn's Quaker Pennsylvania was liberation compared to the Europe they fled seeking freedom of religion, assembly and speech for all, hopefully, none of which we take for granted today. 



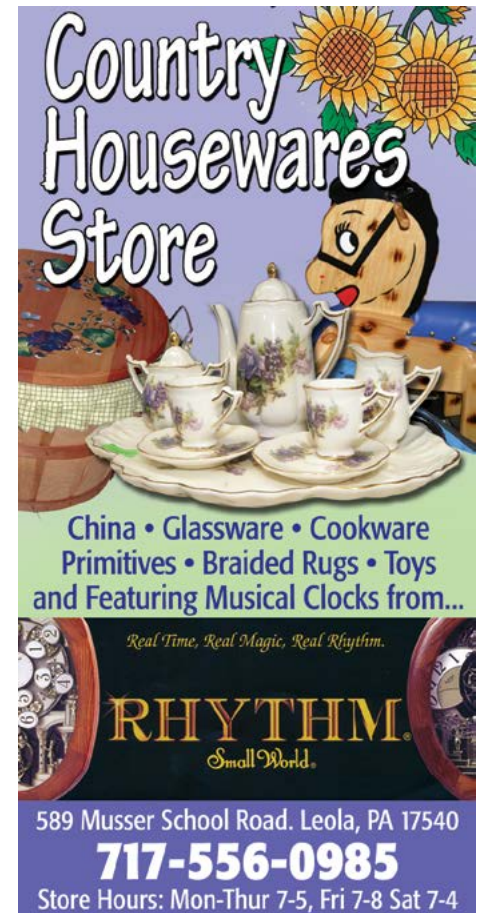
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Wobbly Bob— A Legendary Lager Lives On at Union Barrel Works

By Clinton Martin

Union Barrel Works is a small but mighty craft brewery and pub restaurant located in the quaint village of Reamstown (halfway between Ephrata and Adamstown.) UBW's craft-brewed, exclusively-on-site lagers are always creatively and carefully crafted for superior taste and their rave reviews are well-earned. Some are straight forward, such as the IPAs or the Oktoberfest Marzen. Others are uniquely "UBW," and such is the case with their most popular lager, the whimsical "Wobbly Bob." Wobbly Bob Lager is a Doppelbock, a dark German dunkle-style lager, which is deliciously malty with a strong yet mellow finish. Like all Union Barrel Works brews, it is served unfiltered, which helps this brew retain its naturally occurring vitamins and minerals. Pair it with any of the enticing entrees at Union Barrel Works for a true epicurean delight. UBW...well worth the trip! Call (717) 335-7837 for hours and directions. 



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"Simply Beautiful" from Blue Ridge Furniture

By Clinton Martin

Every piece of furniture, whether it's purchased from a big-box store, a yard sale down the street, or a mom-and-pop shop downtown was made by someone... somewhere. What dictates the quality isn't so much who made it, but how it was made.

The Amish and Mennonite craftsmen at Blue Ridge Furniture take the painstaking steps to create furniture pieces that easily

pass from one generation to the next without losing their luster. They take steps that mass-produced imports simply won't. The wood is solid hardwood, free from blemishes or impurities. Particle and Oriented Strand Board, common in lesser-quality furniture, are four-letter words to the skilled craftsmen at Blue Ridge.

"Everything beautiful." That's long been their promise, but they don't simply put

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Countryside Road Stand— A Find in the Farmlands

By Caleb Bressler



Known for baked goods, delicious pretzels, homemade root beer, and quilts, the Countryside Road Stand also has a large animal meadow to delight visitors.

While Countryside Road Stand is in the country, in fact on a farm, it is so much more than a “stand.” This is really a pure shopping haven, where you’re sure to find something for everyone.

On first arriving, the pretzel and ice cream window is a portal to homemade soft pretzels, milkshakes, and ice cream. There’s usually homemade root beer on the porch in the summer, too, a welcome treat on a hot summer day.

Inside, homemade canned goods, including pickles, jams, and relishes, line the counter. Baked goods, cheese, popcorn, and Amish candies are not far away, along with whoopie

pies, cookies, and other tempting homemade goodies. Surprising discoveries include clocks, quilts, books, marble rollers, and delightful, fun gifts, even a spider that pops out of a box!

A popular spot on tours, Countryside Road Stand is one of those great places where everyone from families to groups onboard motor coaches can find something, and inevitably depart this Amish farm with memories...not to mention a soft pretzel or two!

To visit Countryside Road Stand, just put 2966 Stumptown Road, Ronks, PA into your GPS or, call 717-656-4474 for more information. 

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As the designers at Blue Ridge like to say, "Go ahead... dream a little. Or dream big. From chairs and side tables to full dining room and bedroom collections, we have something beautiful for everyone."

Blue Ridge Furniture is open daily except Sundays. The GPS address is 2014 Main Street, Narvon PA.

Call ahead for hours, 717-445-6595. To browse online prior to your visit, surf over to www.blueridgeheirlooms.com.

Blue Ridge Furniture

(Continued from Page 37)

lipstick on a pig by cutting corners. They work hard to build furniture that from the inside out is a gorgeous work of art, and therefore can't be anything but their avowed "Everything Beautiful."

Blue Ridge Furniture's showroom is right here in Amish Country, along Route 23 in the village of Churchtown. The manufacturing is done less than five miles away in a renovated barn. Their repertoire includes dozens of styles created to fit any home's décor and every person's lifestyle.

Read Amish Country News Online
Visit www.amishnews.com

where you'll find archived issues, Brad Igou's continuing Amish Series, recipes from dining issues and lots more!

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Publisher's Message

A Very Special Auction for Very Special Children

By Brad Igou

I am using my column this month to alert readers to an important change to your Amish Country calendar. One of my favorite events has long been the Clinic for Special Children Auction held annually in September. But WAIT! The date has been changed. The 2016 auction is being held Saturday, June 18. So if you are in the area, or can be, I would highly encourage you not to miss what has always been one unforgettable event.

It's safe to say you will see more Amish here than at any similar event in the area. It is one of the few opportunities to rub elbows and interact with Plain people without feeling that you're looking through the lens of a camera.



2015 Clinic Quilt Auction – Nautical Star. Made over a period of two months by Maryland Amish quilter Magdalena Stoltzfus, this 4,000 piece quilt sold for over \$10,000. The 2014 auction raised over \$350,000.

As with most events like this, you will find virtually anything and everything on multiple auction blocks, with bidding going on simultaneously in different areas... garden plants and household items here, farm equipment there, with the highlight focused on dozens of beautiful handmade quilts.

Whether you bid or not, the food alone is reason enough to make a visit. Here are a few food statistics from prior years... just

imagine 30,000 donuts, 7,300 sandwiches, 520 pizzas, 2,800 pieces of chicken, 6,600 ice cream cones, 3,500 soft pretzels, 4,000 cups of lemonade, 168 strawberry pies, and 900 pounds of whoopie pie filling!

So what is the Clinic for Special Children? According to the Clinic newsletter, it is “a non-profit diagnostic and primary pediatric medical service for children with inherited metabolic disorders. The clinic serves Old Order Amish, Mennonite and other families with children who suffer from a high incidence of genetic diseases.” Most recently, the Clinic has managed over 150 diseases and over 1,000 patients from 35 states and over 15 countries.

Founder Dr. Holmes Morton usually speaks briefly at the event, and it is often an emotional scene. The special relationship between the Clinic, which uses some very high tech equipment in its work, and the Plain community that shuns much modern technology, makes for an unusual collaboration, with each respecting the world of the other. Morton summarized this beautifully when he wrote the following....

The Amish people have worked the fertile land around the Clinic for 300 years with the same simple, low cost labor intensive, high yield methods of farming. I have come to respect the work in the field. The field helped Jake and Naomi feed 12 children and gave and taught them all meaningful work. When Jake's mules turn at the end of a row, he often looks to see if I am at my window and waves. We can each respect the work of the other. He knows I measure the usefulness of my work against the usefulness of his. He knows that I measure the success of my work, not in terms of lectures, publications, grants, or income, but in terms he understands. He has grandchildren with the disease that I study and we hope that they can live to work in the field.

The Clinic for Special Children Auction is held on June 18, 2016 at the Leola Produce Auction at 135 Brethren Church Road, a mile north of Route 23 in Leola. Other Clinic auctions are held in various locations in Pennsylvania, and there is even one in Ohio. For more information on the Clinic and its other auctions, contact The Clinic for Special Children, P.O. Box 128, Strasburg, PA 17579. Tel. 717-687-9407. www.clinicforspecialchildren.org

AMISH COUNTRY NEWS

PO Box 414 • Bird-in-Hand • PA 17505

717.768.8400, Ext. 218

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June 25 & 26



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